

Date: Wed, 2 Nov 94 04:30:27 PST  
From: Ham-Equip Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-equip@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Ham-Equip-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Ham-Equip@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: List  
Subject: Ham-Equip Digest V94 #398  
To: Ham-Equip

Ham-Equip Digest                      Wed, 2 Nov 94                      Volume 94 : Issue 398

Today's Topics:

        achat : DECAMETRIQUE  
        Best dual-band mobile? (2 msgs)  
        For Sale: Duplexer and Antenna  
        Good 2M handheld?  
        Hamtronics FM Exciter Kits??  
        HT recommendations please!  
        Johnson Viking RangerII  
        Kenwood TM701A                      ---                      what is it?  
        New to AM Communications/Solid State AM Hints  
        Omni VI opinions  
        Source for GRC-9 BT-1  
        VCR Tuner for prog.weather satellite receiver  
        W-21a and W-21at add explanation.  
        want Browning CB manuals  
        Yaesu FT-415/416 Mods

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Equip@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Equip-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Equip Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-equip".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

-----

Date: 2 Nov 1994 08:14:41 GMT  
From: pito@semt1.smts.cea.fr (P Piteau)  
Subject: achat : DECAMETRIQUE

KENWOOD    TS 450 ,            TS 850

YAESU       FT 840 ,            FT 890

faire offre (raisonnable) par email uniquement

desole pour l'anglais je ne suis deja pas tres bon en francais

73 51 a tous

-----  
Date: Sat, 29 Oct 1994 16:03:01 +0800  
From: tcalof@minet.gov.mb.ca (Terry Calof)  
Subject: Best dual-band mobile?

I've got a dual band ht (Yaesu FT-530), and am very happy with it. I'm shopping for a dual band mobile now. Any opinions on the FT-5100, Kenwood 733A, or Icom 2340? If you're using any of these radios and have an opinion good/bad, I would appreciate some feedback (no pun intended).  
Thanks. Terry VE4UC

-----  
Date: Sat, 29 Oct 1994 16:04:02 +0800  
From: tcalof@minet.gov.mb.ca (Terry Calof)  
Subject: Best dual-band mobile?

I've got a dual band ht (Yaesu FT-530), and am very happy with it. I'm shopping for a dual band mobile now. Any opinions on the FT-5100, Kenwood 733A, or Icom 2340? If you're using any of these radios and have an opinion good/bad, I would appreciate some feedback (no pun intended).  
Thanks. Terry VE4UC

-----  
Date: 1 Nov 94 14:37:04 GMT  
From: FLETCHER@vilas.uwex.EDU (Bill Fletcher, RM:7135, #:6-6667)  
Subject: For Sale: Duplexer and Antenna

1. The duplexer is a two cavity unit tuned for transmit on 75.660 Mhz and for receive on 72.080 Mhz.
2. The antenna is an Andrew Type 161-1. It is tuned to high-band VHF from 151-162 Mhz.

Price is negotiable. Shipping is extra. If interested, please contact me by E-mail first. Thanks.

Bill

```

*-----*
* Bill Fletcher AF9B                      fletcher@vilas.uwex.edu *
* Wisconsin Public Radio      Packet: AF9B@WD9ESU.#SCWI.WI.USA.NA *
*
* 821 University Ave.                      Voice: 608-266-6667 *
* Room 7135
* Madison, Wis 53706
*-----*

```

```

-----
Date: 1 Nov 1994 05:01:17 GMT
From: charnoft@wfu.edu (Forrest T Charnock)
Subject: Good 2M handheld?

```

Mark Halliday (markh@media.mit.edu) wrote:

: I recently got my Technician License (with Code) and am looking for a  
: good, small and inexpensive 2M handheld.

: I've looked at the Kenwood TH-22AT and like it for it's feature, size and  
: flexibility. What are others' experience with this radio. I can get it  
: for \$262 - \$20manuf. rebate; is that a good price.

: I am also intrigued by the Standard C108A. It's small and seems to be  
: well made. What are others' comments and experience with the radio?

: Please reply to markh@media.mit.edu also.

: Cheers,  
: -markh  
: N1PHL

I have the HTX-202 and am quite happy with it. Below are some  
articles I got off this board earlier about this unit. I don't mean to  
sound like an advertisement; there are a lot of excellent units out there,  
and which one is right for you depends on what you want to do with it.

Thanks to those who posted this info before! I don't know if  
there is a FAQ with this information on it, but there should be. This  
is probably THE MOST frequently asked question on this board.

*	*	*	*	*
Olin Physical Lab		The more the pity that fools may not speak		
Wake Forest University		wisely what wise men do foolishly.		
Winston-Salem, NC			--Touchstone	
KE4RJG				

-----  
From news.wfu.edu!concert!inxs.ncren.net!taco.cc.ncsu.edu!gatech!  
howland.reston.ans.net!swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!uunet!spstimes.sps.mot.com!mogate!  
newsgate!newsgate!stevet Mon Oct 10 15:27:35 1994  
Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.equipment  
Path: news.wfu.edu!concert!inxs.ncren.net!taco.cc.ncsu.edu!gatech!  
howland.reston.ans.net!swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!uunet!spstimes.sps.mot.com!mogate!  
newsgate!newsgate!stevet  
From: stevet@carib.oakhill-csic.sps.mot.com (Steve Turner-CAD\_Tools)  
Subject: Re: RS HTX-202  
In-Reply-To: rbailey@nucleus.com's message of Thu, 6 Oct 1994 05:02:08 GMT  
Message-ID: <STEVET.94Oct7105906@carib.oakhill-csic.sps.mot.com>  
Sender: news@newsgate.sps.mot.com  
Nntp-Posting-Host: carib.sps.mot.com  
Organization: Motorola CSIC MCU Design  
References: <Cx8JBL.8zC@nucleus.com>  
Date: Fri, 7 Oct 1994 15:59:06 GMT  
Lines: 81

>>>> In article <Cx8JBL.8zC@nucleus.com>, rbailey@nucleus.com (Rob Bailey)  
writes:

Rob> Hello: I'm new to Ham and Packet and was considering  
Rob> purchasing a Radio Shack HTX-202 2m HT. I was wondering if  
Rob> anybody could tell me about their experiences with this unit,  
Rob> good or bad. Is it capable of working with a 9600 baud TNC?  
Rob> Does anybody know of any reviews of this radio? Any info  
Rob> would be greatly appreciated...

I am also new to Ham, currently studying for the Technician test.  
While I don't have much hands-on experience with HT's, I have done a  
little research on the HTX-202 and recently bought one. QST magazine  
reviewed several 2m HT's in October 1992, including the HTX-202.  
Other radios reviewed were: Alinco DJ-162TD and DJ-F1T, ICOM IC-P2AT  
and IC-2SRA, Kenwood TH-28A and TH-225A, Standard C168A, Yaesu FT-411E  
and FT-415. Here's an excerpt regarding the HTX-202:

The runaway leader in in-band receiver performance, the HTX-202,  
Radio Shack's first-ever 2-meter hand-held transceiver, does the  
company proud. This rig has taken a lot of pounding on the air and  
in other ham forums for its lack of receiver coverage outside the 2m  
ham band - something that every competing radio provides - but the  
benefit is a direct payoff in adjacent-channel selectivity and  
two-tone, third-order IMD dynamic range. [...] What does this mean

to you? The HTX-202 is practically immune to the interference problems so common in urban areas thick with VHF radio traffic.

[...]

Other points in its favor include its ruggedness, super-easy programming and operation; loud, low-distortion receiver audio; and clear, well-illuminated display. It's the only radio in the group that comes with both an alkaline battery case and a NiCd battery pack. Its instruction manual is also excellent.

[...]

The HTX-202's unlit keypad can be hard to read in the dark, and this is *\*not\** a compact radio. [...] But therein lies the advantage: Though Radio Shack's accessory offerings are few, the HTX-202 is compatible with ICOM's large line of IC-2AT-series accessories.

For budget-conscious operators who value solid receiver performance and the ability to buy locally, and who don't consider the HTX-202's lack of extended receiver coverage a major liability, this radio offers solid value and good basic performance.

[...]

Only the HTX-202 includes a battery-charging indicator. This feature, insignificant as it may seem, made most of the evaluator's wish lists.

[...]

For those who need only ham-band coverage and 16 memories, Radio Shack's \$260 HTX-202, the second-least-expensive radio reviewed here, is another super value. Its receiver performance, standard extras, and high transmitter power (6 W at 13.8 V) make it best suited for occasional portable or mobile use and the best of this bunch for home-station operation.

Radio Shack had the HTX-202 on sale for \$199 recently. I bought one on the last day of the sale, but I think they're back at \$259 now. At that price, you might want to take a look at some of the other HT's on the market...

You might also send mail to [bretttb@cruzio.com](mailto:bretttb@cruzio.com). He is organizing a mailing list for the HTX-202 and might have some information for you.

Hope this helps you.

— —

"Specialization is for insects."

The HTX-202 has 12 independently-programmable memory channels, plus one calling and three priority channels. It comes with continuous tone squelch encode -AND- decode. Power output is 5 watts minimum (7w typical) with 12 VDC supply, 3 watts @ 9 VDC or 2 watts @ 7.5 VDC. Low power setting provides 1 watt output. A power saver circuit with programmable 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, or 1/16-second duty cycle. Batteries are compatible with larger ICOM (IC-2AT/IC-32AT) series HTs.

Size is 65 x 117 x 37 mm. To put this in perspective, with alkaline packs on the 202 and my ICOM W2A, both are the same thickness. The 202 is maybe 1/4-inch wider (at widest part), and 1/16-inch taller (it's hard to compare because of the irregular shapes of HTs.) The HTX-202 does give the impression of being a "mid-size" HT until viewed up against something like the little W2A, which actually has three different "widths."

Now, the good stuff...

- \* True FM modulation (not phase modulation) for outstanding transmit audio and best performance in packet service.
- \* Continuous tone squelch transmit and receive tones are independently programmable.
- \* In addition to DTMF dialing, there is 5-digit DTMF selective paging (DTMF squelch).
- \* A five-number memory dialer that stores 15-digit sequences for autopatch use or DTMF paging.
- \* Scan for either active -- or vacant -- channels, with programmable scanning step of 5, 10, 20, 25, 50 or 100 KHz, and upper and lower scan limits (for VFO scan.)
- \* FAST, 25 channels/second scanning.
- \* Selectable priority channel scan interval, every 4, 8, 12 or 16 seconds.
- \* Multi-function scanning lets you scan standard memories, priority freq. memories, or a frequency range. Resume can be after 10 seconds, when carrier drops, or remain on channel (don't resume.)
- \* Transmit timeout - if you frequently time-out your local repeater, this circuit will stop transmitting after a preset delay (30, 60 or 120 sec.) and sound a beep. In effect, it forces you to reset the repeater before the repeater times out. Of course you can disable the timeout circuit.
- \* The HTX-202 carries a 1-year parts and labor warranty.

Subjectively, this HT has exceptionally strong, un-distorted receive audio you'll really appreciate when walking around the local (noisy) hamfest. You won't believe the sound is coming from an HT! Transmit audio is crisp, clear and strong.

I put a 5/8-wave mag mount on my car, and used the 202 in the very intermod-rich downtown Ft. Worth, TX area. I've never been able to use an HT on an outside antenna within 2 miles of downtown Ft. Worth before. This one performed magnificently. My ICOM 2400 dual-band mobile gets less intermod than any other radio I've used in this environment, and the HT stayed with it, toe-to-toe. When the ICOM heard intermod, the 202 heard it, but when the ICOM was quiet, SO WAS THE HT!!!!

Even more impressive, the HTX-202 heard signals through the intermod, when the IC-2400 could not pull 'em out! Reason is probably because we purposely limited coverage to ham band ONLY! It can't be modified for out-of-band receive. The design objective was to build a specialized ham radio product that does the best possible job on the ham bands, and that includes the tightest, most intermod-free front end we could design into an HT! The published spec says intermod attenuation is 60db minimum. Spurious

response and adjacent channel rejection are also 60db.

The HTX-202 is based on the ICOM 02AT with certain design modifications based on Tandy's specs. These variations include the encode/decode, additional memories, and a full width LCD display. Contrary to rumor, no part of the radio is Kenwood or Yaesu! ICOM sold the rights to their design to Tandy to do with what they would.

When Tandy sought to produce the unit, they went to their usual Korean source for cheap gadgetry: MAXON. Maxon then built the HTX-202 for Tandy, under license from Icom. The HTX-202 is surprisingly sturdy, and well constructed, considering that Maxon's Quality Control has, in the past, been suspect.

Most HTX-202s will not take a BP-7 Icom pack. The BP-8 usually works well. If the Zener diode in the bottom-feed circuit is bad, only a 9.6-vdc pack or less will work. A minor headache at the very least.

ALWAYS: Slide off your NiCad pack when using external DC power from your vehicle or a power supply! Leaving the pack on while mobile puts too much burden on the Zener diodes, and generates heat at twice the normal rate. Save your radio and take off the pack!

Unlike its Icom brother, the 202 will not top charge an Icom pack while on external DC power. Refer to the warning above!

WARNING: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BOTTOM-CHARGE THE STOCK NICAD PACK IN AN ICOM BC-35 OR CLONE CHARGER.

DESIGN FLAW: Some early production (S/N 2500 and down) radios had the NiCad Zener Diode located too close to the finals, causing final transistor failure when used on external DC with the pack in place. This was remedied in production, and Tandy will remedy under warranty.

---

\* QMPPro 1.52 \* Dogs come when you call. Cats have answering machines.

-----

Date: 1 Nov 1994 23:13:47 GMT  
From: c594911@showme.missouri.edu (Grim)  
Subject: Hamtronics FM Exciter Kits??

Greetings... I found an ad by Hamtronics in some magazine offering FM Exciter Kits for various bands above 50MHz. They claim 2W continuous



duty cycle and "TXC0 & xtal oven options".

Are these basically a single-frequency fm transmitter? Can I merely attach some sort of microphone/tnc to them? I'm not sure if an exciter and transmitter are the same thing... does anyone have any experience with these or similar kits who could offer some advice? tnx...

Tom Lindberg N0YYW <c594911@showme.missouri.edu>

btw they sell for \$109...

-----  
Date: Tue, 1 Nov 1994 02:06:08 GMT  
From: Harvie Porter <hporter@twilight.vtc.vsc.edu>  
Subject: HT recommendations please!

As I do a lot of bicycle touring, I am looking for a recommendation for a lightweight 2M handheld that can endure the vibrations of travelling many miles in a handlebar bag. Suggestions?

Many thanks,

Harvie Porter  
Randolph, VT  
hporter@twilight.vtc.vsc.edu

-----  
Date: 1 Nov 94 19:40:45 GMT  
From: hawley@aries.scs.uiuc.edu (Chuck Hawley)  
Subject: Johnson Viking RangerII

Tony Stalls <rstalls@access3.digex.net> writes:

>I'm in need for the two-pin male mike connector used on the Johnson  
>Viking Ranger II. If anyone knows of a source, or even the part number,  
>I would appreciate your passing it along.

>Thanks & 73,

>Tony Stalls, K4KY0  
>rstalls@access.digex.com

If this is the two pins somewhat offset from the center, also used in the Collins 32V series, send me your address and I'll send you one.

Chuck Hawley, KE9UW in Urbana, Illinois  
hawley@aries.scs.uiuc.edu  
School of Chemical Sciences, Electronic Services  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

-----  
Date: Mon, 31 Oct 1994 21:56:27 GMT  
From: SECOYTC@ssv004.ssd.loral.com (Todd C. Secoy)  
Subject: Kenwood TM701A --- what is it?

i have a friend considering the purchase of a dual-band mobile rig made by kenwood. this is used equipment with the model # TM701A. he hasn't seen the thing and so is wondering what its capabilities / vital statistics are.

anyone got one of these? how do you like it? what does it do? power output? # of memories? ease of operation? relative size? mods?

-todd secoytc@ssvax1.ssd.loral.com kd6fwg

or reply to my friend, louis: brydon@orca.ssd.loral.com wa6ocz

thanks!

-----  
Date: 1 Nov 1994 15:43:19 GMT  
From: dgontz@po-box.esu.edu (Douglas Gontz -- n3jxb)  
Subject: New to AM Communications/Solid State AM Hints

I just recently got an antenna that allows me to use 160m and 75m bands. I've heard some people using AM and have been able to talk with folks with little trouble. The problem is I'm not sure if I have the rig set correctly.

The rig is an ICOM 735. I adjusted the carrier insertion to the recommended 40 watts. I've found by way of talking with friends that I get the best reports by running the speech compress and keeping the Mic gain relatively low. However, I've noticed that no matter what I do the radio seems to drop power as I modulate.

Does anyone else have any experience with using ICOM 735's on Am and, possibly, any suggestions on better ways to set the rig up. Also, I'd like to hear from anyone that knows of any solid state rigs that run AM okay. I'm thinking about upgrading the rig and I want to make sure

the new station will work well on AM. I'd like to stay with ICOM but I could be persuaded to change brands if there are better rigs on the market.

Thanks in advance for any and all help. I really appreciate.

73 --- Douglas, n3jxb

-----  
Date: Mon, 31 Oct 1994 12:36:57 -0600  
From: greg.jennings@jci.com (Gregory Jennings)  
Subject: Omni VI opinions

> Jeff,  
>  
> > I am considering selling my Kenwood 850S in favor of getting a Ten  
> > Tec Omni VI.. any opinions, happy or unhappy Omni VI users out  
> > there.  
>

I too am interested in buying an Omni VI, primarily because it is made in the USA. I would like to know what distinguishes the Omni V and the Omni VI. Is the Omni VI suitable for packet, i.e. what modes if any have to be made? Is there software to control the radio from a computer or if not does Ten-Tec sell a manual explaining the protocol so that I can write my own? (I am a Macintosh user and programmer.) How does the Omni VI compare to the Kenwood 990ds? (I think that is their high end model.)

Best regards,

greg.jennings@jci.com or gregj@studsys.mscs.mu.edu

-----  
Date: Mon, 31 Oct 1994 15:27:45 -0500  
From: Tony Stalls <rstalls@access3.digex.net>  
Subject: Source for GRC-9 BT-1

If you have a GRC-9 transceiver, you can get the BT-1 bias battery (BA-1293/U made by Duracell, Inc., Lexington, NC) for the receiver from:

S&G Electronics, 618 62nd St., Philadelphia, PA 19143, 215-474-7662

-----

Date: Tue, 1 Nov 1994 09:49:59  
From: mulveyk@kahu.lincoln.ac.nz (Mulvey, Ken)  
Subject: VCR Tuner for prog.weather satellite receiver

Anyone modified a VCR tuner to act as a programmable receiver  
for weather satellite reception 136 -138 Mhz???? TIA. Ken

-----  
Date: 1 Nov 94 16:41:50 GMT  
From: Dale\_Croft@comsys.rockwell.COM  
Subject: W-21a and W-21at add explanation.

ref Message-Id: <199410301230.EAA08975@ucsd.edu>  
Date: Sun, 30 Oct 94 04:30:20 PST  
in Ham-Equip Digest V94 #395  
author vinod@watson.ibm.com (Vinod Narayanan)

>Tucker is advertising this for \$299 in Nov QST. The  
>picture with the advertisement shows an HT with no  
>DTMF keypad, and the advertisement says "DTMF operation  
>with optional mike". On another page, the same HT is advertised  
>by somebody else for \$429, and the picture shows an HT with  
>DTMF pad etc. I think that one says W21 AT. But there is yet  
>another advertisement (Jun's) which says W21 AT, but now again  
>without the keypad. So, what's going on here? Are there two  
>different models? Inquiring minds want to know :-)

>--vinod, N2ZKE  
email: vinod@watson.ibm.com N2ZKE@N6QMY.#NOCAL.CA.USA

Vinod, I asked your question of WB6NBF who is a coworker here at Rockwell,  
and a part timer at Tucker. His response:

Dale

You can send this back out for me....There are two models available,  
the W21A without the touchtone pad and is selling for \$299 at Tucker,  
the other is the W21AT which has the touchtone pad and sells for  
roughly twice the price of the non touchtone pad model.

Gene, WB6NBF

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Options expressed are MINE and not ROCKWELL's \*  
\* 73, K5VMU dale\_croft@comsys.rockwell.com \*

\*\*\*\*\*

-----

Date: 1 Nov 1994 15:29:37 GMT  
From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (daniel wright)  
Subject: want Browning CB manuals

Greetings troops!! I picked up a near mint Browning Golden Eagle Mark III cb and would like to consider converting it to 10 meter AM operation. I have no docs at all on the unit. I would like to obtain any schematics and/or operational data-descriptions,etc.etc. I will pay all associated costs with copying or buy the manuals outright. Any ideas?? Thanks es 73 de Dan -- WA0JRD/djw@unlinfo.unl.edu

-----

Date: 1 Nov 1994 23:27:22 GMT  
From: dcameron@unixg.ubc.ca (David Warren Cameron)  
Subject: Yaesu FT-415/416 Mods

I was wondering if any of you out there have heard of modifications for the FT415/416 handheld. A friend of mine has one and is very interested if there is an extended Tx and or Rx mod available. I have heard of the mod but have never seen a modification sheet for it. Could someone please send me the full instructions on how to perform this modification?

Thanks in Advance  
David Cameron  
VE7LTD

-----

Date: 1 Nov 1994 19:37:53 GMT  
From: mosier@fagan.uncg.edu (Stephen Mosier)

References<1994Oct23.102332.4074@atlas.tntech.edu>  
<Pine.SUN.3.91.941029085055.1434B-100000@access3.digex.net>,  
<greg.jennings-3110941236570001@159.222.253.214>  
Subject: Re: Omni VI opinions

>I too am interested in buying an Omni VI, primarily because it  
>is made in the USA. I would like to know what distinguishes  
>the Omni V and the Omni VI. Is the Omni VI suitable for  
>packet, i.e. what modes if any have to be made? Is there  
>software to control the radio from a computer or if not  
>does Ten-Tec sell a manual explaining the protocol so that

>I can write my own? (I am a Macintosh user and programmer.)  
>How does the Omni VI compare to the Kenwood 990ds? (I thing  
>that is their high end model.)

I can't compare the OMNI VI to anything else recent, but I have had mine for over two years and I love it. I don't run digital modes, but I can't imagine why it wouldn't do it. It will run RTTY with 100% duty cycle. The RS232 interface is specified in the manual, so you should be able to program for it easily. I use a logging program that reads data off the interface, and it was basically plug and play.

steve  
mosier@uncg.edu 910-334-5878

-----

End of Ham-Equip Digest V94 #398  
\*\*\*\*\*